

REMARKS

Applicant has carefully reviewed and considered the Office Action mailed on April 6, 2007, and the references cited therewith.

Claims 1, 12-25, 27-30, 40 and 41 are amended, and no claims are newly canceled; as a result, claims 1-34 and 40-41 remain pending in this application.

§102 Rejection of the Claims

On page 3 of the Final Office Action of April 6, 2007, claims 1, 12-16, 23-27, 31-34 and 40-41 were rejected under 35 USC § 102(e) as allegedly being anticipated by Zhang et al. (U.S. Patent Application Publication 2003/0187841). Applicant submits that amended independent claims 1, 16, 27 and 40 obviate the rejection. Claims 12-14 were amended to conform to amended independent claim 1, claim 15 was amended to include the word "medium", claims 23-25 were amended to conform with amended independent claim 16, claims 28-30 were amended to conform with amended independent claim 27, and claim 41 was amended to conform with amended independent claim 40.

Amended independent claim 1 is directed to a method in a computer environment. The method includes, among other things, receiving a request for information about a Web service, wherein the request includes data corresponding to an origin node within a taxonomy related to the Web service, data indicating that an expanded result set is desired, and data indicating a specified genealogical relationship with the origin node.

Zhang et al. is directed to a method in which an XML-based Advanced UDDI Search Engine (AUSE) provides an advanced search mechanism for Web Services capable of providing more narrow and meaningful search results (Zhang et al., at paragraph [0015]. Zhang et al. discloses receiving a compound query, with respect to one or more Web-based data sources, wherein the compound query has at least one first-level query and at least one aggregation operator (Zhang et al., at paragraph [0017]. However, Zhang et al. fails to disclose or suggest that the received query includes data indicating a specified genealogical relationship with an origin node within a taxonomy related to a Web service. For at least this reason, Applicant submits that Zhang et al. fails to disclose or suggest receiving a request for information about a Web service, wherein the request includes data corresponding to an origin node within a

taxonomy related to the Web service, data indicating that an expanded result set is desired, and data indicating a specified genealogical relationship with the origin node, as required by amended claim 1.

Because Zhang et al. fails to disclose or suggest each and every feature of claim 1, Applicant submits that claim 1 is not anticipated by Zhang et al. and respectfully requests that the rejection of claim 1 be withdrawn.

Claims of 12-15 depend from claim 1 and are not anticipated by Zhang et al. for at least the reasons discussed above with respect to claim 1. Therefore, Applicant respectfully requests that the rejection of claims 12-15 be withdrawn.

Amended independent claim 16 recites a feature similar to the previously-discussed feature of amended independent claim 1. Applicant submits that claim 16 is not anticipated by Zhang et al. for at least reasons similar to those discussed with respect to claim 1. Therefore, Applicant respectfully requests that the rejection of claim 16 be withdrawn.

Claims 23-26 depend from claim 16, either directly or as a base claim, and are not anticipated by Zhang et al. for at least the reasons discussed above with respect to claim 16. Therefore, Applicant respectfully requests that the rejection of claims 23-26 be withdrawn.

Amended independent claim 27 is directed to a system, in a computing environment, including, among other things, a client, which includes an application program that sends a request for taxonomy-related data with respect to a Web service, wherein the request includes data corresponding to an origin node in a taxonomy and information indicating at least one specified genealogical relationship with the origin node.

Applicant submits that the above-mentioned feature of claim 27 is similar to the previously-discussed feature of claim 1. Applicant further submits that claim 27 is not anticipated by Zhang et al. for at least reasons similar to the reasons discussed previously with respect to claim 1. Therefore, Applicant respectfully requests that the rejection of claim 27 be withdrawn.

Claims 31-34 depend from claim 27 and are not anticipated by Zhang et al. for at least the reasons discussed above with respect to claim 27. Therefore, Applicant respectfully requests that the rejection of claims 31-34 be withdrawn.

Amended independent claim 40 is directed to a method including, among other things, receiving a request for taxonomy-related information with respect to a plurality of computing resources, wherein the request includes data corresponding to an origin node within a taxonomy, data indicating a desire for an expanded result set, and data indicating a specified relationship with the origin node. Applicant submits that the above-mentioned feature of claim 40 is similar to the previously-discussed feature of claim 1. Applicant further submits that claim 40 is not anticipated by Zhang et al. for at least reasons similar to those previously discussed with respect to claim 1. Therefore, Applicant respectfully requests that the rejection of claim 40 be withdrawn.

Claim 41 depends from claim 40 and is not anticipated by Zhang et al. for at least the reasons discussed above with respect to claim 40. Therefore, Applicant respectfully requests that the rejection of claim 41 be withdrawn.

' 103 Rejection of the Claims

On page 7 and 8 of the Final Office Action, claims 2-11, 17-22 and 28-30 were rejected under 35 USC § 103(a) as allegedly being unpatentable over Zhang et al. as applied to claims 1, 16, and 27 above, and further in view of Goiffon et al. (U.S. Patent 6,453,312). Applicant submits that amended independent claims 1, 16 and 27 obviate the rejection.

Claims 12 and 13, which depend from claim 1, are not anticipated by Zhang et al. for at least the reasons discussed above, with respect to claim 1. Goiffon et al. discloses a system and method for allowing users to interactively develop searches (Goiffon et al., at col. 3, line 65 through col. 4, line 1). Goiffon et al. teaches that relationships may exist as branches of a hierarchical concept tree, and that a concept may be related to one or more parent concepts or child concepts (Goiffon et al., and col. 4, lines 6-12). Goiffon et al. further teaches interactively developing a search query by selecting additional functions such as "Expand to Parent Concept" and "Expand to Child Concept" (Goiffon et al., at col. 17, lines 5-10). These additional functions will further locate all Word and Word Variant Elements associated with the newly-located concepts and will add these located words to a window (Goiffon et al. at col. 17, lines 13-16). A user may develop a query using any of the concepts appearing in the window, or the

user may remove any of the concepts in the window from further consideration (Goiffon et al., at col. 15, lines 39-48).

Goiffon et al. is directed to developing a query and does not disclose or suggest, either separately or in combination with Zhang et al., receiving a request for information about a Web service, wherein the request includes data indicating a specified genealogical relationship with an origin node within a taxonomy related to a Web service, as required by claim 1, from which claims 2-11 depend. Therefore, Applicant submits that claims 2-11 are patentable over Zhang et al. in view of Goiffon et al. and respectfully requests that the rejection of claims and 2-11 be withdrawn.

Claims 17-22 depend from claim 16, either directly or as a base claim. Claim 16 recites a feature similar to the previously-discussed feature of claim 1. For at least this reason, Applicant submits that claims 17-22 are patentable over Zhang et al. in view of Goiffon et al. for reasons similar to those discussed with respect to claims 2-11, which depend from claim 1. Therefore, Applicant respectfully requests that the rejection of claims 17-22 to be withdrawn.

Claims that 28-30 depend from claim 27. Claim 27 has a feature similar to the previously-discussed feature of claim 1. For at least this reason, Applicant submits that claims 28-30 are patentable over a Zhang et al. in view of Goiffon et al. for reasons similar to those discussed with respect to claims 2-11, which depend from claim 1. Therefore, Applicant respectfully requests that the rejection of claims 28-30 to be withdrawn.

Conclusion

Applicant respectfully submits that the claims are in condition for allowance and notification to that effect is earnestly requested. The Examiner is invited to telephone Applicant's attorney (425-707-9382) to facilitate prosecution of this application.

If necessary, please charge any additional fees or credit overpayment to Deposit Account No. 500463.

Respectfully submitted,

LUCAS R. MELTON, ET AL


By their Representatives,

Customer No. 22971

Date December 10, 2007

By /Richard C. Irving/
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CERTIFICATE UNDER 37 CFR 1.8: The undersigned hereby certifies that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service with sufficient postage as first class mail, in an envelope addressed to: Mail Stop Amendment, Commissioner of Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450, on this 10th day of December, 2007.



Shellie Bailey